

APPROVED 01-10-06
KING COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2005
EXCHANGE BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM 6A

Members Present: Helen Nilon, Eleanor Owen, Allan Panitch, Ron Sterling, Eugene Wan

Members Absent: Melody Cecilia James (excused), James Nobles (excused), Gwendolyn Williams (unexcused), Nancy Witherbee (excused)

Guests Present: Trish Blanchard, Cathy Clem, Kim Thomas, Theresa Winther (Seattle Mental Health); Linda Brown (KCASAAB Liaison); Pam Dawson (DCFS); Dillan Dominick (private citizen); Liz J. Eddy (board applicant); Angie Shackell (private citizen); Jackie Swett (NAMI-Eastside);

Staff Present: Susan McLaughlin, Rhoda Naguit, Jean Robertson, Amnon Shoenfeld, Barbara Vannatter

I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Board Chair Ron Sterling convened the meeting at 4:37 p.m. and asked everyone to introduce him/herself.

II. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 8, 2005 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Helen Nilon made a motion, which was seconded by Eugene Wan, to approve the November 8, 2005 minutes as submitted. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. WRAPAROUND/IST PRESENTATION

Barbara Vannatter stated that the presentation on wraparound/IST services is in response to the board's work plan to incorporate monthly presentations of each of the MHCADSD integrated services. The first presentation is the wraparound/ IST services. Barbara introduced the presenters from Seattle Mental Health (SMH), composed of its Clinical Supervisor, Program Manager, volunteers, youth advocates, DCFS staff, and a consumer.

Trish Blanchard explained the Interagency Staffing Team (IST) program. IST works with parents to know what the children's needs are. It is a program that addresses the needs of parents and the children who are involved with multiple systems; providing open dialogue with families and representatives of the systems that are serving the family. One of the goals of this program is to keep kids out of

the criminal justice system. The program is built on natural supports and it empowers parents and children/youth to grow and develop the skills needed to work with multiple systems. It is a model of needs-driven and strengths-based planning.

Kim Thomas, a Metropolitan IST parent, shared her experiences as a volunteer staff of the program. She stated that the program helps parents to have a "voice;" helps bridge the gap between parents and professionals; finds resources in their area; and provides case management and wraparound services.

Cathy Clem, who had a child in the program, is now working as a volunteer for wraparound/IST program. She said that the program helps nurture relationships between parent and child and serves as model to families. The program uses an individualized approach to service. It has worked directly with 40-50 families per year.

Another parent, Angie Swett, testified how the program had helped her a great deal. She used to make numerous calls to get help for her son but since she's been involved in the wraparound/IST program she did not have to do this any more because this program brings everybody to the table at the same time. She has taken wraparound training and now serves as a facilitator. She's a natural support.

Pam Dawson of Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) appreciates the coordination provided by SMH with her office which makes her work easier.

"Dylan" a consumer of the program, was present in the group. He was asked what he thought was the worst part of being in "the system." He responded lack of consistency or constant moving and changes.

The following are questions from board members:

Allan Panitch asked if the emphasis of the program is on family or child. Theresa Winther responded that it could be both; either or all - whatever is needed to stabilize the child.

Where do you get referrals for this program? Referrals come from the community.

Is there any plan to expand the IST program? IST program is an enhancement for existing programs for kids. Theresa recommended using regular services first before accessing IST.

Speaking of program expansion, Susan McLaughlin explained that the Division is moving towards expansion of the wraparound program as part of the standard tier benefit. She passed out some data on number of wraparound trainings provided by year and by organization.

Eleanor Owen asked if a mechanism to measure the effectiveness and successes of the wraparound training has been established. She wants a mechanism that could be used to find out if wraparound training is done right and applied right. Susan McLaughlin responded that this is a work in progress. Fidelity to the model must be maintained in order for it to be successful.

Barbara Vannatter stated that the wraparound/IST program is recovery in action.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Helen Nilon – NAMI-Eastside will hold a Holiday Party on Tuesday, December 20, 2005 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Evergreen Hospital in Kirkland.

Allan Panitch - Passed out an article from Seattle Post-Intelligencer entitled "There's no rest for victim's father." Allan said that he shared this article with the board to enable them to get to know him more and to know his struggles. The article was about his daughter Robbyn Sue, an L.A. County outreach worker for the homeless, who was killed in 1989 by a client whom she tried to get committed to psychiatric treatment three days prior to her fatal stabbing. The killer, David Scott Smith, was sentenced to 20 years to life for this crime but is due for parole hearings and testimony soon. The article addressed safety issue of people who are in the mental health system and of people we serve and people who serve. The recent death of a DMHP in Kitsap County raised a lot of personal feelings for Allan. He noted the importance of providing debriefing for people affected by a violent incident.

How does King County conduct involuntary commitment of mentally ill clients? Jean said that for safety reasons, King County DMHPs go as a team when a mentally ill client is to be involuntarily committed. This is not necessarily true with other counties.

Eleanor voiced her opinion that early involuntary commitment of mentally ill would lessen occurrences of violent incidents.

V. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Pursuant to a motion made and approved by the King County Mental Health Advisory Board on October 11, 2005, letters to agency directors/CEO regarding assigned board liaison for their agency were signed today. The letter asked to designate a contact person from their agency with the assigned board member to discuss the best ways for the board member to fulfill duties related to this liaison assignment. These letters will be mailed out tomorrow.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Legislative Advocacy & Public Affairs Committee** – Eleanor Owen

There was a good turnout at this year's Legislative Forum. There were 150-200 people and 11 legislators/aides including Toby Nixon, a Republican legislator from District 45, who attended the forum. Amnon Shoenfeld made a fabulous and concise presentation. Roger Goodman did a superb job as Master of Ceremony. The timing was under control and the program moved smoothly.

Amnon would like to set a date for legislative forum four months prior to the Legislative Forum next year. There was a suggestion to hold a Candidate Forum versus Legislative Forum once every two years.

- **Nominations Update** – Helen Nilon

Liz Eddy is a current candidate for board membership. The Nominations Committee will review and discuss her application as soon as she turns in her completed application form, completed/signed Financial Disclosure form, resume, and letter of interest.

- **Quality Council** –Helen Nilon

The Division staff was focused on completing the RFQ response, which was due on December 1, 2005.

- **Recovery Initiatives Committee** – Eleanor Owen

The committee had a series of animated meetings; discussed employment and the role of the committees. Eleanor drafted two letters for the committee. Copies of the letters were distributed to the board for review. One was addressed to the Executive Director of Harborview Medical Center to express appreciation for the work of his Social Work and Mental Health Services Department staff who gave an excellent presentation to the Recovery Initiative Committee. The board approved the release of this letter.

The other letter was addressed to community mental health providers asking for information about employer contacts or their formal linkages with people. There was a suggestion to check with Perry Wein of the Employment Committee if this information is already available. Eleanor will call Perry Wein about this. The letter also needs some fine tuning.

VII. STAFF REPORT

A. Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Update

The Division has responded on time on the RFQ; 42 five-inch binders were submitted. Amnon Shoenfeld and Renee Ulam delivered the binders in Olympia. We will know how we did on the RFQ when the result is released on January 5, 2006.

[note: the RFQ website has changed the target date for announcing the successful RSNs to January 15]

B. Recovery Ordinance/Plan Update

The Recovery Ordinance/Plan was passed by the King County Council on November 19, 2005. The King County Budget passed a \$200,000 proviso to implement its Recovery Plan. This dedicated funding will be pay for the cost for training, consultation, and staff to oversee the implementation of the Plan. The focus for the first year of implementation of the plan will be on consensus building. In addition to getting all the groups together, it will also focus on the system change.

How does the State Mental Health Transformation Plan grant, which is recovery focused, linked with the Division's recovery plan? They are not formally linked.

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

- **Helen Nilon:** Seattle Mental Health and Partnership Group

Helen was not able to get together with Seattle Mental Health this month.

The Partnership Group meeting was interesting. The group felt good that staff was able to submit the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to the State on time. One comment made was why King County has not filed suit against the State on liquidated damages. Jean responded that the Division has initiated the dispute and this is moving forward. Another issue brought up at the Partnership Group Meeting was about spenddown. Effective April 1, 2006, King County will not be able to support spenddown. Discussion on the impact of spenddown followed. Jean stated that the Division takes care of tier payment when a person goes on a spenddown. Ron asked the Division to put together a paper on the impact of spenddown and to include what the changes are.

- **Eleanor Owen:** Western State Hospital

Every year, Washington State Hospital gives out gifts to clients. If interested to give donations for this project, send unwrapped gifts through Eleanor Owen.

IX. BOARD AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS / NEW BUSINESS

None at this time

X. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Prepared by:

Attested by:

Rhoda A. Naguit
Recording Secretary

Ron Sterling
Board Chair